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Agenda item 107

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Philippines*: revised draft resolution

Proposed merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/111 of 20 December 1993 regarding the proposal to merge the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 49/160 of 23 December 1994 regarding the proposed merger,

Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General dated 7 July 1994, 1/ submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/111,

Bearing also in mind the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions prepared in compliance with General Assembly resolution 48/111, dated 7 September 1994, 2/

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77.

1/ A/49/217-E/1994/103.

2/ A/49/365-E/1994/119.

Taking into consideration the request made by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/160 to the Secretary-General that he submit, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, an updated report, which would contain, inter alia, the information requested in Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235 of 27 July 1993 and in paragraphs 2 and 3 of General Assembly resolution 48/111, as well as the additional information requested by the Advisory Committee,

Taking also into consideration paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/160, which requested the Economic and Social Council to re-examine the issue at a resumed session to take place after the Fourth World Conference on Women and before the Third Committee of the General Assembly considered the item on the advancement of women, taking into account the deliberations of the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-ninth session, the Fourth World Conference and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning institutional arrangements in the United Nations system for the advancement of women,

Keeping in mind that the Commission on the Status of Women did not give an opinion on this matter, as requested in General Assembly resolution 49/160, owing to the lack of documents requested therein,

Keeping also in mind that the Fourth World Conference on Women did not discuss the proposed merger of the Institute and the Fund, but outlined their mandates separately and distinctly,

Taking note of the opinion expressed by the Inspector in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit 3/ entitled "The advancement of women through and in the programmes of the United Nations system: what happens after the Fourth World Conference on Women", which states that the vast majority of women, and the most pressing problems for women, are in the developing world and that therefore at least one of the specific United Nations women's units should be based there as well,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretariat pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/160, dated 10 November 1995; 4/

2. Also takes note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions of 27 November 1995; 5/

3. Reaffirms the views expressed in paragraph 360 of the Platform for Action which states:

> "Recognizing the roles of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in particular the special roles of UNIFEM and

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3/ A/50/509, para. 225.

4/ A/50/747-E/1995/126.

5/ A/50/785-E/1995/128.

INSTRAW, in the promotion of the empowerment of women, and therefore in the implementation of the Platform for Action within their respective mandates, inter alia, in research, training and information activities for the advancement of women as well as technical and financial assistance to incorporate a gender perspective in development efforts, the resources provided by the international community need to be sufficient and should be maintained at an adequate level";

4. Concurs with the views expressed in paragraphs 334 and 335 of the Platform for Action concerning the mandates of the Institute and the Fund;

5. Regrets that, owing to the absence of sufficient information on the legal, technical and administrative implications of the proposed merger, it is currently unable to decide on the proposed merger;

6. Urges the Secretary-General to implement the mandates of General Assembly resolution 49/163 of 20 December 1994;

7. Recommends that the interaction between the Commission on the Status of Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be reviewed and rationalized within the context of ongoing efforts to revitalize the Economic and Social Council in pursuance of a stronger, more unified programme for the advancement of women as requested in paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 48/111;

8. Also recommends that any proposal dealing with the institutional structure and the mandates of the different United Nations bodies dealing with the advancement of women must be considered part of the general restructuring exercise of the United Nations.